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Give GENEROUSLY to the MARCH OF DIMES

EAST BAY LABOR JOURNAL

THE ONLY OFFICIAL NEWSPAPER OF ORGANIZED LABOR IN ALAMEDA COUNTY

AN AMERICAN FEDERATION OF LABOR PUBLICATION : : : : : OWNED, CONTROLLED AND PUBLISHED BY CENTRAL LABOR COUNCIL OF ALAMEDA COUNTY and BUILDING AND CONSTRUCTION TRADES COUNCIL OF ALAMEDA COUNTY

Give GENEROUSLY to the MARCH OF DIMES

Vol. XXI. Number 15 | Oakland, California, Friday, February 7, 1947 | Single Copies Five Cents

CONFUSION IN CLERKS' STRIKE SETTLEMENT CAUSED BY LOOSE REPORTING IN DAILY PRESS

AFL TEACHERS UNION LEADER BLASTS NEA AS COMPANY UNION

WASHINGTON. — The National Education Association has been acting as a company union under the guise of a professional association, Secretary-Treasurer Irvin Kuenzli of the American Federation of Teachers (AFL) said January 27th in the American Federationist.

The teachers union official blamed the NEA and similar so-called professional groups for the present mass exodus of teachers from the field for lack of decent salaries.

"While battling against the organization of teachers into bonafide unions," Kuenzli wrote, "the non-union associations have failed to battle for education and the rights of teachers." He said in some places teachers were pressured into joining such groups, and that they were dominated by administrators and school officials.

"The million teachers of the nation," he wrote, "constitute the only large body of workers whose organizations are controlled largely by the employers. In hundreds of cities and towns the superintendents who hire and fire the teachers and determine their salaries are the key men in the teachers organizations which are supposed to protect the civil rights of teachers.

"Many of the administrators who control the organizations are deeply involved in local politics and many of them have been imported by chambers of commerce, taxpayers' leagues and other organized groups for the specific purpose of keeping teachers' salaries down."

He said organization of strong bonafide unions among teachers is the only logical solution to the crisis facing the schools, adding:

"The very security of the nation will depend to a large extent upon whether or not company unions among teachers are replaced by bonafide union controlled by the teachers themselves and possessing sufficient power to make teaching a profession which will attract and hold the most competent personnel."

Bartenders' Local 52 To Hold Two Special Meetings And Election

Bartenders' Union, Local 52, announced that two special called meetings would be held this month, the first, a day meeting on February 13th at 1:00 p. m., and the second on February 20th at 8:00 p. m., which is a night meeting. The purpose of the two meetings will be to hold nominations of delegates to the International convention, which will be held at Milwaukee, Wis., starting on April 4, 1947.

The election will be held on February 27th with the polls open from 9:00 a. m. to 9:00 p. m. A fine of $2.50 will be assessed against those members who do not vote. Members are urged to attend the meetings and vote on election day. Bring your book. All meetings and the election will be held at Union Headquarters at 1110 Franklin St., Oakland.

AFL PRINTING UNIONS CRACK PACIFIC PRESS

LOS ANGELES. — Pacific Press, publishers of the West Coast editions of Time and Life magazines and former open shop printing citadel, is bowing at last to the AFL printing trades unions.

After a short sharp strike last year, Pacific Press agreed to the holding of NLRB elections to determine union representation.

On January 24th the Allied Printing Trades Council announced its sixth successive victory when typographers voted 61 to 3 to affiliate with the Internatoinal Typographical Union. Earlier elections were won by the mailers, both commercial and newspaper pressmen's locals, photoengravers, stereotypers and paper handlers. Book binders are scheduled to vote shortly and are expected to complete unionization of the plant.

STATEHOOD FOR HAWAII PROPOSED

WASHINGTON. — Statehood for the territory of Hawaii is proposed in 11 bills introduced in the new Congress.

Building Trades, Contractors Sign National Pact

WASHINGTON.—In a direct move to promote peaceful relations through free collective bargaining, the Building & Construction Trades Department (AFL) and the Associated General Contractors of America have entered into an arbitration agreement that President Truman hailed as a great forward step.

Meeting as a national joint conference committee, the two groups established three committees to which disputes or disagreements will be voluntarily submitted.

The first committee will handle and make decisions in disputes between contractors engaged in heavy construction work and the membership of unions in that industry.

Another committee is set up for contractors and unions in highway and road construction, while the third committee will devote itself to disputes in the building industry.

Should disputes arise on work that cannot be classified as any of the three types, the national joint conference committee is empowered to name a suitable committee.

Covering 19 AFL international unions and about 2 million members, the agreement provides for equal membership by the contractors and the unions. Disputes will reach the committees only after a failure to reach "any orderly settlement at the local level or through any other machinery which may have been provided; and where the parties to the dispute mutually agree to submit this dispute to this committee for final determination."

The national joint conference committee is prohibited from assuming jurisdiction in "any dispute arising between organizations affiliated with the Building & Construction Trades Department (AFL) and employers on whose operation a non-union condition exists for any of the crafts on their construction work."

Truman wrote the contractors and the AFL department a letter of congratulation in which he said "now that most of the wartime controls have been removed, it is appropriate that in the American tradition labor and management assume their full responsibility. You have negotiated the present plan without government participation. The public and the government look to you to make it work."

The letter concluded with a promise of full assistance from the agencies of the government including the conciliation service and the Bureau of Labor Statistics.

"You have taken a notable step along the road to industrial peace," Truman wrote. "I know that with the full support of the members of all your organizations, both management and labor, your industry and the nation will achieve a higher level of production and greater stability."

AFL-EDITOR APPOINTED TO TWO CALIFORNIA ASSEMBLY COMMITTEES

SACRAMENTO, Calif. — Among the five members of organized labor appointed to the California assembly's powerful rules committee is Assemblyman Carl Fletcher, editor of the Labor News, official publication of the Long Beach Central Labor Union.

Fletcher was also appointed to the committee on industrial relations, of which a clear majority are members of organized labor or favorably inclined to its principles.

Secretary C. J. Haggerty of the California Federation of Labor has already announced approval of Republican Governor Earl Warren's inaugural address proposals for broadened state mediation authority in labor disputes, a stepped-up program of housing and increased workmen's compensation benefits.

Milk Wagon Drivers To Act on New Milk Agreement Tonight

Jeffery Cohelan, secretary-treasurer of Milk Wagon Drivers, Local 302, announced today that a regular special meeting would be held by Local 302 Friday (tonight), February 7th at 8:00 p. m. in the Cooks' Union Hall, 1608 Webster Street, Oakland.

The purpose of the meeting, stated Cohelan, was to hear and act upon the recommendations for the Milk Contract. The Contract Committee will submit the Milk Agreement changes and all members working under the Milk Agreement are urged to attend.

OAKLAND TRIBUNE PRINTS SETTLEMENT TERMS THAT WERE ACCEPTED BY CLERKS AND AFL; RMA DENIES PURPORTED TERMS AND PLACES AFL STATE PRESIDENT REAL ON THE SPOT

Amid the welter of confusion that has surrounded the Clerks' strike at the Kahn's and Hastings stores, and the purported settlement of the 4-month-old strike that was later denied by the Merchants Association, several points stood out in bold relief that tended to clarify the strike situation.

Last Monday, on page 4 in various editions of the Oakland Tribune, Charles W. Real, secretary of Teamsters Local 70 and president of the California State Federation, was quoted as disclosing the "just and fair" settlement terms offered in connection with the strike, which were turned down by the AFL Negotiating Committee. The rejection of the terms, the article continued, resulted in Local 70 withdrawing from the strike strategy board on recommendation of Charles Real, secretary of the local and president of the State AFL.

The text of the offer was then printed in full with these words: "The text of the terms which Real suggested be accepted by the union follows." An 8-point program of settlement terms was printed in full and quoted. The eight proposals were evidently drawn by someone very close to the picture because as printed in the Tribune the proposals consisted of a combination of employer proposals, clarifications requested by the union, and counter proposals suggested by the union.

At last Monday night's meeting of the Central Labor Council a full and complete report had been rendered by the Negotiating Committee on the strike and in the discussion that ensued, the Council accepted the terms as purportedly outlined by Real for the settlement.

At 1:30 a. m. Tuesday morning the morning newspapers were notified that the terms had been accepted by the union, and the story was published in a San Francisco morning newspaper. City Manager Jack Hassler was notified by the AFL committee that the terms were acceptable and the strike was settled upon confirmation of the terms by the employers. Immediately, denials were issued by Paul St. Sure, the Retail Merchants Association, and other interested parties that the Merchants had offered those terms as a basis for settlement. The two Oakland dailies, the Post Enquirer and Tribune reported that "confusion reigned," and the Tribune attempted to cover up for its loose reporting of the Real story.

Real was unavailable for immediate comment and was not contacted until Tuesday afternoon by the committee, when he emphatically denied that he had issued the story. The flurry of hope that had existed Tuesday morning quickly died out as the facts were assembled in their proper order and it was realized that the plan concocted by someone to place the unions on the spot had backfired.

After the Tribune had characterized the terms as "fair and just" it now found that the employers were rejecting them, thus leaving the employers in the position of refusing what everybody concedes is a most eminently fair settlement. Paul St. Sure, mouthpiece for the Merchants Association, blasted the proposals as not coming from the employer and stated that the union was accepting its own proposals. St. Sure's remarks are both stupid and uncalled for and are untrue since, as we have pointed out, the eight proposals were a combination of some of the employer's proposals, the union's request for clarification and the union's counter proposals.

As a result, the 8-point proposals were left as an illegitimate child with everybody denying parenthood. Because these proposals do present a fair and just settlement, the union on Tuesday night adopted them as a means of settlement and followed up with this action:

James F. Galliano, Council attorney, forwarded a communication to the Retail Merchants Association, through Paul St. Sure, calling for an immediate acceptance of the proposals as "just and fair." Galliano's letter stated in part: "We noted in Tuesday's newspapers a statement attributed to you (St. Sure), denying that said proposals were so authorized for such submission by Mr. Real to the Unions. However, such denials did not include a rejection of said proposals as fair and just settlement. Accordingly, and in order to clear the record, bring certainty out of the evident confusion created by conflicting press releases, and as a conscientious and honest effort to bring to an immediate end, the long-standing strike, we hereby, on behalf of the Clerks' Union and the AFL labor movement of Alameda County, offer said proposals to the Retail Merchants Association (or to Kahn's and Hastings alone, if you so desire).

"Further, we urge the acceptance by them of these proposals as eminently fair and just to both parties and as so considered by responsible employer, union and civic leadership."

While the employers, through Paul St. Sure, denied that the settlement on those terms were ever offered, the situation boils down to this: That the terms offered in the Tribune are fully acceptable to the Clerks' Union and to the AFL of Alameda County without reservation. The union is willing to meet with the RMA, City Manager Jack Hassler, and other responsible civic leaders to settle the 4-month-old strike on that basis.

In the opinion of the two daily newspapers, according to their published articles on the situation, both have termed the proposals just and fair. The Clerks' Union and the AFL also believe the proposals just and fair and provide the means of bringing the strike to an end.

The general public should be fully informed that the proposals are acceptable to the Clerks' Union and the strike can be settled by the employers and Attorney Paul St. Sure, by accepting the Clerks' offer to settle on the terms as published in Tuesday's Tribune.

The burden for settlement of this dispute now rests on Paul St. Sure and the Merchants Association. By their willingness to accept the printed proposals that have been termed just and fair, the employers can also bring about settlement of this dispute. The reading public of Alameda County know now what terms the Clerks are willing to accept and the burden of continuing this fight rests squarely upon the Merchants Association. If they are sincere in their efforts to end the strike, and again bring industrial peace to the City of Oakland, they may do so very easily by their acceptance of the terms of settlement and thus end the strike.

STRIKE AT KAHN'S AND HASTINGS STILL ON!

The strike at Kahn's and Hastings is still on despite the muddled situation caused by loose reporting of the Oakland Tribune. The Central Labor Council, by unanimous action, voted full and complete confidence in the Joint Negotiating Committee of Bob Ash, Jack Reynolds, John Philpott, Charles Omstead and Attorney Galliano, and voted for more vigorous prosecution of the strike.

SEE THAT YOUR UNION DONATES

Attend your union meeting and see to it that your local union donates to the strike fund of the Central Labor Council. Many unions have made initial donations and the time is NOW to start around once again. See to it that your union is among those, that by their dollars are helping to unionize these two unfair stores.

SUPPORT THE CLERKS, OBSERVE THE PICKETLINES

Give your full and complete support to the Clerks' Union, first by your financial donations and secondly by observing their picketlines. See that your family and friends do likewise, and by this economic action the Clerks' Union and those on the picketline will have a much easier fight. Let's keep going all out for the Clerks.

Special Notice To All Painters In Alameda County

As has been reported to the various house painters' locals in the county, the Disability Unemployment plan, on a group basis, has been approved by the District Council of Painters No. 16, and the Painters & Decorators Joint Committee of Alameda County, and the Painting & Decorating Contractor's Association of Alameda County. After many meetings of all of the representatives of the Council and the representatives of the employer groups, this voluntary plan was found to be more favorable than the State Plan.

The plan will go into effect on April 1, 1947, and is being issued by the California-Western States Life Insurance Company. The State law provides that the employees must elect to carry this group insurance. Consequently all employers have been furnished with forms for the signature of each one of his employees.

All house painters affiliated with the District Council and working for Alameda County employers, are instructed to sign the form presented which bears the stamp of approval of the District Council of Painters No. 16, and the signature of the secretary, C. Vezey.

Do not sign any other than that which carries this stamp of approval. Attached to each list for signatures will be a form for the information of the brothers which shows the comparison between the benefits payable by the State plan and those paid under the voluntary plan. The office of each Local Union has a supply of these comparisons and they will be explained at the next meeting of each local. The law provides that any voluntary plan must carry benefits equal or greater than those provided by the State plan. So, in no event, can any of the members of the Council go wrong in subscribing to this voluntary plan.

Further information as to how to apply for benefits, who is eligible for benefits, and how the plan will work, will be published from time to time before the plan goes into effect on April 1, 1947. In the meantime all employees are covered under the State disability unemployment insurance.

HUGH S. RUTLEDGE,
Financial Secretary,
Painters' Local No. 127.

BIG 'UNS HOG NEWSPRINT SUPPLY

WASHINGTON. — Big newspapers, big magazines and big newsprint mill operators have a throttle hold on the production, price and distribution of printing paper, Senator James E. Murray (D., Mont) reported January 30th.

Murray accompanied his statement with a hitherto secret report on the structure and operations of the North American newsprint industry.

"What this report proves," Murray said, "is that only Congress can do the job of breaking the bottlenecks on newsprint for small papers. It shows that the prices of newsprint for part or all of the U. S. are set at private meetings in Canada, outside the jurisdiction of the anti-trust division or the Federal Trade Commission."

The report shows that the Hearst, Patterson-McCormick and Scripps-Howard Newspaper chains consume about 25% of the total U. S. consumption, that only 20% of the newsprint is manufactured in this country, and Murray said Congress must cooperate with Canada to "see to it that monopolistic pressure—from Canadian mills or U. S. publishers—is taken off small papers."

DONT' PATRONIZE KAHN'S OR HASTINGS. THEY ARE UNFAIR!

AFL, TEAMSTERS RENEW FIGHT AGAINST UNFAIR ANDREW JERGENS

LOS ANGELES.—A continuation of the united fight against the Andrew Jergens Company was this week pledged by the Western Warehouse and Produce Council of the Western Conference of Teamsters.

Calling for support of AFL unions throughout the eleven western states, George Mock, secretary of the council reviewed the history of the anti-labor firm which has defied virtually every governmental agency dealing with industrial relations problems.

Local 598, General Warehousemen, organized all production and maintenance employees of the firm's plant in Burbank, Calif., and in December, 1945, won certification as the collective bargaining agent. The National Labor Relations Board at the same time issued a directive ordering the company to give its employees a 5c per hour wage increase retroactive to May, 1943. The same order had also been directed by the National War Labor Board.

The company never did abide by any of these orders!

Nevertheless the union made every effort to secure an agreement with the company in spite of the company's bitterly anti-labor attitude and stalling tactics.

The employees walked out of the plant as a body in February, 1946, and established picket lines. Since then the company has employed every effort to break the strike, even going so far as to hire a strike-breaking trucking company to pull loaded boxcars into the plant's spur track after railroad workers refused to go through the picket lines there.

Virtually every Central Labor Body and Council has placed the firm on the unfair list and unionists on the West Coast have been conducting an active consumer boycott of Jergens Lotion, Woodbury's Soap and other products which the firm has been manufacturing in eastern plants.

Mock indicated that the boycott would be spread and that the Council was enlisting the active support of AFL unions across the entire nation.

The company sponsors Walter Winchell, supposedly liberal radio commentator, but the liberalism does not go any further than the radio program.

ITU Strike Halts Colorado Paper

COLORADO SPRINGS, Colo. — Publisher Harry Hoiles' refusal to sign a contract with striking printers on his Clovis, N. M., News-Journal resulted in tying up his Colorado Springs Gazette-Telegraph.

Members of Local 82, International Typographical Union (AFL), walked out after months of negotiations brought no satisfaction of their demands, which included signing of an agreement with the ITU's Clovis local. Union officials charged Hoiles with attempted union-busting in Clovis and warned that if he is successful there he will use the same methods on all his papers.

Hoiles, who owns a chain of western papers, accused the printers of conducting a secondary boycott, which is illegal in Colorado. The printers said they would be glad to sign a contract when Hoiles' publications demonstrate their fairness by "righting the grievous wrong done our fellow members by their publication in Clovis."

A printers' strike in sympathy with the Clovis workers was also underway in Marysville, Calif.

WRECKER



Leading the current congressional attack on labor is Senator Joseph H. Ball (R., Minn.). Not satisfieid with just one anti-labor bill, he's already introduced four. The latest just about repeals the Wagner Act.—Federated Pictures.

DOCK TRUCKERS GAIN

NEW ORLEANS, La. — The Teamsters Local 965 here has organized Terry Smith & Son, Inc., employes. These are truck drivers and helpers whose work is hauling and stevedoring for longshoremen in loading and unloading ships. The hourly rate for all workers before organization was 65 cents an hour. The new contract established a minimum of 80 cents to $1.10.

AFL GOES "ALL OUT" TO SOLIDIFY ALL U. S. LABOR IN BID TO CIO FOR MERGER

MIAMI, Fla.—The AFL executive council began its detailed study of current anti-labor legislation here February 3rd as it awaited a reply from the CIO to its proposals for a complete merger of the two main wings of organized labor.

The surprise proposal brought a "no comment" reply from CIO President Philip Murray when he was informed of it by reporters in Pittsburgh January 31st. "This is the first I've heard of it and I certainly wouldn't have any comment on it now," he said.

In Washington, where the AFL proposal was directed by special delivery mail, CIO spokesmen said the question probably would be taken up by the CIO vice presidents when they meet February 18th.

The AFL letter, signed by President William Green, informed Murray that a 5-man committee had been appointed to go into immediate talks with a similar CIO committee "for the purpose of bringing about organic unity within the ranks of labor."

The merger proposal was the first answer from top AFL leaders to an appeal for unified action to fight what he called "a deliberate and monstrous movement under way to cripple, if not destroy, the labor movement of this country."

Green said Murray's proposals for periodic meetings "means that cooperation may be followed for a day while division and discord continue. We cannot present a united front by pretending to be united today, and being divided tomorrow."

Pointing out that the current anti-labor drive emphasizes "the need for labor unity and labor solidarity," Green said: "Labor could cope with situations such as confront us at the present time in the Congress of the U. S. and in the different states in a much more effective way if the millions of workers organized into separate unions were blended into one parent union.

"That would mean that the millions of workers now represented by divided unions would stand together, speaking as one and acting as one, united solidly into a strong, united movement."

Appointed to the AFL committee were: Green, Secretary-Treasurer George Meany; President William Hutcheson of the United Brotherhood of Carpenters; President Daniel J. Tobin of the International Brotherhood of Teamsters, and President John L. Lewis of the United Mine Workers, who is believed to have conceived the idea. Last attempt to bring the AFL and CIO together into one organization back in 1939 ended in failure after months of negotiations.

INDICTED



Former Rep. Andrew J. May (D., Ky.), who headed the powerful House Military Affairs Committee during the war, has been indicted by a Washington grand jury for conspiring to defraud the government.
—Federated Pictures.

NEW CONTRACT IN COPPER

COPPER HILL, Tenn.—The Tennessee Copper Co. has renegotiated a contract with the AFL locals here. The new scale provides a minimum of 85 cents an hour and ranges up to $1.75 an hour.

LABOR CODE REQUIRES EMPLOYER TO PROVIDE SAFE PLACE OF EMPLOYMENT FOR EMPLOYEES

SAN FRANCISCO. — Calling attention to Section 6400 of the California Labor Code which requires every employer to provide a safe place of employment for his employees, Paul Scharrenberg, Director of Industrial Relations, stated a few days ago:

"The Labor Code further provides that the Division of Industrial Safety may order an unsafe place of employment closed until it is made safe.

"California highways are 'places of employment' for thousands of the State's workers: truck drivers, bus drivers, traveling salesmen, and many others.

"More than a third of all industrial fatalities in California result from accidents involving 'vehicles.' Since 1939, there have been between 220 and 270 deaths each year in which the cause of the accident is given as 'vehicle.' Most of these have been automobile, truck and bus accidents, and the greatest number have occurred on the highways."

Mr. Scharrenberg reported that he was conferring with his legal aides and is seriously considering requesting the Division of Industrial Safety to make an investigation of California's highways, with a view of issuing orders closing those highways which are unsafe for use by workers in the course of their employment, until they are made safe.

AFL Auto Workers Divided On Whether To Boom Or Bust

CHICAGO. — The United Auto Workers (AFL) polled its 250,000 members on the prospects of boom or bust and found them almost evenly divided on the question.

Fifty-nine per cent said boom. Of these 21% thought it would last for two years, 20% for five years and 5% saw long term prosperity ahead. Of the 41% who predicted a bust, 33% believed it would be upon us in a year and 16% saw it holding off for two years.

The workers thought the best way to combat inflation was by (1) intensified buyers' strikes, (2) high excess profit taxes, (3) restoration of price controls, (4) more production and (5) competition, in the order named.

Fifty-six per cent wanted guaranteed regular employment, leaving out the wage issue, more than anything else.

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AUXILIARY NOTES

How the Women Are Helping Through Their Organizations

LABOR TEMPLE AUXILIARY

Our meeting was held on February 4th with a good attendance. The theme of the evening was a birthday party in honor of our worthy President, Elma Stone. The decorations were carried out with the Valentine idea and were very effective. A lovely cake was made in honor of our President's birthday, which was enjoyed by all. Several hands of whist followed, making it a very enjoyable evening.

I have had no report of sick or distressed sisters, so hope everyone is well.

Several of our ladies, about 14 of them, attended the Happy Go Lucky radio program, to support our Victoria Braves, who very bravely carried the torch for the Ladies Auxiliary Group of the Red Cross. She won $25.00 for her loyal supporters. Bravo, Braves! We are proud of you. The money was turned over to the Auxiliary Red Cross Group to be dispensed with as they see need for it.

The Red Cross group are working on girls' wool skirts, slippers and chair backs for the hospital. They, indeed, deserve a hand for their work. Birthdays celebrated this month are:

February 3rd—Clara Burnett, 3550 Maple; 5th, Jessie Houston, 2817 38th Ave.; 9th, Ida Nelson, 5422 Walnut Street; 11th, Mary Graves, 189 Vernon Terrace; 12th, Laura Sommerville, 5621 N. Picardy Drive; Rosemary Padfield, 4201 Suter St.; 19th, Elma Stone, 3733 Randolf St.; 23rd, Carol Wharton, 406 Fairmount Ave.; 28th, Lena Moore, 2052 - 55th Ave.

Anniversaries to be congratulated — February 3rd, Clara Burnett, 3550 Maple Ave.; 9th, Ida Nelson, 5422 Walnut St.; 14th, Lena Moore, 2052 - 55th Ave.; 21st, Mary Anderson, 437 Haddon Rd.; 22nd, Hazel Rasmussen, 1603 - 54th Ave.; Blanche Amos, 5321 Grove St.; 23rd, Lois Girard, 3015 Humboldt Ave.; 24th, Lazora Wiemer, 1118 - 18th St. Congratulations, girls!

Ladies, if you have any little item of interest, please get in touch with me, ANdover 0344, or mail 1603 54th Avenue, and let me know so I can put it in the paper. You all like to read the column, but it is impossible to write one without news material. HAZEL RASMUSSEN,
Recording Secretary.

PAST PRESIDENTS' CLUB LABOR TEMPLE AUXILIARY

Dear Folks:

Southern baked ham and it was the "Ham what am," that our Past President Bessie Hunt served the club at our lunch on January 24th meeting. The ham was accompanied by candied sweet potatoes (yum yum), new potatoes, peas and creamed cauliflower. Oh, yes, we had Bessie's wonderful Sailor Boy cake smothered with whipped cream.

Pearl Scott, Edna Paterson, Dora French and Rosemary Padfield were present and they, as well as myself, left all feeling slightly overstuffed. That is politely saying, one bit too much cake or something.

Minor matters taken up and taken care of. This being our first meeting in 1947, the new officers took over their duties, with Pearl Scott as our new President and yours truly, Inez Wager, to be Secretary-Treasurer for the term. I hope you will all correct me when I make mistakes, large or small. This sort of thing all being so new to me.

Rosemary, having been unavoidably absent for a few meetings, was certainly welcome to be back again and we hope she will be able to continue in the future.

We have decided on an installation party with husbands only invited, but as yet we don't know where nor when. So I shall let you know all about it when I write again. I'll be writing you.

INEZ WAGER,
Secretary-Treasurer.

PAST PRESIDENTS' CLUB No. 97

The Past Presidents' Club held their annual dinner at Club Kona January 31st. Our guest for the evening was our new past president, Mabel Balli, and one of our most faithful members, Sister Alpha Feddersen of Kelseyville, Calif., motored down to be with us. Sure was delighted to see her and Oh! Boy! that country climate had Alpha looking like a million. Our club received honorable mention from the "master of ceremonies" and much applause was extended to us from the surrounding tables. To top it off we had group pictures taken and we sure looked like a happy bunch. (Now for a plug for the Kona Club) It was a swell floor show, and of course the P. P's had the best on the menu. It was truly a grand evening and those present were Club President Olive Harvey, Mabel Balli, Marie Dixon, Anna Hoover, Ora Granter, Ann Pettit, Evelyn Gerholdt, Alpha Feddersen and myself. LOIS L. GIRARD,
Press Corresponden.

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More than 2,000 Georgia students, angered at the fascist methods of Herman Talmadge, marched to the state capitol and demanded to see the usurper who had seized power. When he refused to invite them in, they hanged him in effigy.—Federated Pictures.

State Employment Postwar Picture

SAN FRANCISCO.—Constant increases in manufacturing employment in California are shown in the monthly reports of the Division of Labor Statistics and Research of the California Department of Industrial Relations. The Division has just released its summary for the year 1946 and gives a good picture of the postwar employment picture in California.

It is true that there has been a decline in manufacturing employment since the wartime peak. A low was reached, however, in February 1946, and constant recovery has been recorded since that time, until now manufacturing employment is at its highest peacetime level.

In 1946, an average of 677,200 wage and salary workers were employed in California manufacturing industries. This figure compares favorably with previous peacetime employment. For instance, the estimated average for 1940 was but 417,000. The 1946 average, however, is still substantially below the wartime peak year of 1943 when 1,165,500 were employed in manufacturing industries.

The low point in postwar employment occurred, as has been pointed out, in February 1946, when 602,500 were employed in manufacturing industry, but even this low was considerably higher than the average for the peacetime year of 1940, as noted above. Since that low of February 1946, there has been a constant rise to 740,900 in August. Seasonal declines in employment reduced December employment by approximately 35,000, but even the seasonally lowered December 1946 employment of 705,800 was well in excess of employment in manufacturing industries for the corresponding month of 1945, when employment amounted to but 618,000.

The report makes some pertinent comments on wages. Although average hourly earnings in 1946 were the highest on record, average weekly earnings of factory workers in California manufacturing industries were the lowest since 1942, due mainly to the decrease in the number of hours worked. Average hourly earnings of factory workers in California had risen from $.73 in 1939 to $1.29 in 1946. Although average weekly earnings were higher in 1946 than in 1939, they were substantially below weekly earnings in 1944. In 1944 production workers earned an average of $55.21 per week. In 1946, the average weekly take-home pay for such workers was only $51.30.

The reduction in hours worked is primarily responsible for this decline in take-home pay. In 1944, the average work week was 44.9 hours, while in 1946 it had declined to 39.7.

Another point made in this report is that, with the exception of aircraft and shipbuilding, every major manufacturing industry had a higher level of employment in December 1946 than it did in December 1945. In the case of Trade and Service Division, a new all-time high in employment was recorded for the year 1946, as these industries expanded to serve the needs of California's increased population.

NLRB Man Warns Southern Bosses To Obey Law

ATLANTA, Ga.—In his first official speech as an NLRB member, James J. Reynolds called on southern employers here for stricter compliance to the law to avoid "tracking a trail of blood through your wonderful southland."

"The employer who seeks by espionage, illegal discharge of workers and the imposition of company unions to break down self-organization among his employes is inviting a reaction," he told his audience of 250 at an Atlanta Junior Chamber of Commerce meeting.

At the same time Reynolds said he knew of nothing in the Wagner act which prohibits an employer from talking to his workers about unions. "Employers not only may talk about unions—they should," he said, "but when an employer threatens his employes that if they join a union he will shut down the plant, fire them or starve their wives and children, he's going beyond the law."

The 40-year-old NLRB official, who is making a speaking tour of the south, was appointed by President Truman five months ago.

CINCINNATI PRINTERS VOTE TO STRIKE

CINCINNATI.—Cincinnati's three daily newspapers were threatened with a printers' strike as members of Local 3, International Typographical Union (AFL), voted 362 to 50 to walk out if publishers refuse to meet their demands for wage increases. They seek a raise of $11.08 weekly and 3-week yearly vacations. Publishers of the Cincinnati Enquirer, Times-Star and Post have offered $10 and a 2-week vacation.

WIRTZ QUITS WSB

WASHINGTON.—President Truman has accepted the resignation of Chairman W. Willard Wirtz of the National Wage Stabilization Board. WSB, under a recent Truman order, passes out of existence February 24th.

AFL UNION IN W. VA. WINS

RICHWOOD, W. Va. — Members of Federal Labor Union 23103 (AFL) won an election here at the Wallace Corporation. This election involved 115 company employes.

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MACHINISTS PUT $2 MILLION IN NEW DRIVE

WASHINGTON.—A drive to add about 400,000 members to the rolls of the International Association of Machinists was announced January 29th by the IAM grand lodge executive council. A special fund of $2 million was set aside for the organizing campaign, which is planned to bring the union's membership to one million by May 1948.

IAM President Harvey W. Brown said the drive to "enroll and educate one million members" would be concluded with the union's celebration of its 60th anniversary.

The $2 million fund is over and above the IAM's regular organizing budget and "will not tax the large financial surplus built up during the war years and set aside for just such postwar purposes," Brown said.

All available media will be used in the organizing campaign, including the periodical field, direct mail, radio, display ads, open forums and regular personal contact on an accelerated basis.

Brown's announcement said that "for 59 years the IAM has been an exponent of the American system of free enterprise, and at this time with the field of organized labor cluttered with tactics and policies foreign to the American way of thinking, we believe it important that all our members and the general public as well understand our objectives.

"While it is desirable to raise our membership for increased economic strength," he said, "more important is the point that one million educated workers who understand both the true objectives of organized labor as well as the underlying motives of persons who sponsor legislation to castigate unions, will be a decisive factor in furthering the successful cause of labor in the 1948 congressional elections."

Brown said the IAM's educational program would function on a non-partisan political basis.

In conclusion, Brown said the IAM believed in genuine collective bargaining and felt this objective can "best be met in most cases, on a basis of individual employer-union relationship." Sustaining this feeling, he pointed to the union's negotiations with more than 8,000 employers in the past year, winning members more than $200 million in pay hikes since V-J Day and in 98% of the cases without a strike.

NLRB Keeping Busy On Representation Elections

WASHINGTON. — Two-thirds of the cases received by the hard-pressed NLRB during December were petitions for election and only one-third claims of unfair practices by employers, it was announced here February 3rd.

By the end of the month the NLRB record showed a backlog of 5,056 cases awaiting action at various levels, an increase of 37% over the number pending one year ago. Nevertheless, the influx of 962 new cases during the month was 50% higher than the preceding December.

Some 72% of the 28,000 workers voting in NLRB elections chose representation by some union, and four-fifths of the elections conducted did not involve a contest between unions.

AFL affiliates won 153 elections, or 59% of those in which they participated.

AVERAGE WORKER EARNED $1.14 PER HOUR

WASHINGTON. — The average U. S. manufacturing worker earned $1.14 an hour and worked a 41-hour week in December, Bureau of Labor statistics reported January 27th. Gross weekly earnings in durable goods industries averaged $49.50 during the month, with non-durable goods workers drawing down $44.08.

Dressing Room CHATTER

The next regular meeting will be held Wednesday (Lincoln's Birthday) at 10 a. m. in Room 308, upstairs from the business office. Be sure and have that paid-up membership card or dues receipt to show to Sergeant-at-arms Gerald Stubbs or Ray Frederick, both these boys have spent plenty of time on the door and don't let them in without the proper ticket.

Brother Connelly is expected back for this meeting and will report on a recent trip to attend the International Executive Board meeting in Seattle and on the conditions of our sister locals in Seattle and Portland, as well as other matters of interest to the organization.

Everyone should have received their quarterly dues statement long before this time, as the majority of members are in good standing for the current quarter of February, March and April. There are always a few who wait for that last minute, if you are one of them, remember that dues received after February 10th are subject to a late payment penalty of twenty-five cents (25c) each week or fraction of a week they remain unpaid. Don't let that ole devil—"late payment" get you. He can be mighty expensive, if you let it ride long enough. There's more truth than poetry to that old phrase "There'll be the devil to pay."

It is also very important to you, that you be in good standing to protect your beneficiary under the Death Benefit Plan. This plan has functioned very well, and the membership has been fortunate inasmuch as in approximately 5 years it has only been necessary to levy four (4) assessments of One Dollar ($1.00) each. Two of these deaths occurred last quarter. One of our nearby sister locals in less time has had in excess of twenty (20) deaths. We wish to call your attention to the fact that the dues, etc., are only collected quarterly or four times a year. So when you think in terms of dues, think in terms of your average weekly cost, not the output at the time.

If you are in any doubt as to your financial standing, a call to the union office can set you straight. In closing, remember to notify the office of any change of address, if you are not receiving your Labor Journal, or if you desire for any reason to change the beneficiary you have listed on file, if you are eligible to participate in the Death Benefit Plan.

Up and down the aisle . . . Dolores Laird writes in from the United Artists to say that the theatre gang got together to give Eleanore Butterfield, who is infanticipating, a baby shower. . . . The affair was held at Julia Sicard's home. . . . The doormen, not to be outdone by their feminine co-workers, presented the mother to be with a Ten Dollar gift certificate. . . . Evelyn Marlowe Blalock, Margaret Martilla, Eleanor Fox, Lois Hineline, Betty Waits, Corene McDowell and Emily Zetcher, were also among the group of U.A. employees and ex-employees in attendance. . . . Dolores says that the United Artists gang will challenge any theatre group to a bowling match. . . . They generally can be found on Friday nights at the Broadway Bowl. . . . We would like to add our best wishes to those of the gang for the coming blessed event. . . . Thanks a lot, Dolores, for answering our request for sending in news from your theatre. . . . Let's hear from the rest of the houses and in the meantime remember—see you at the union meeting next Wednesday.

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FLEMING TELLS SENATORS: WE HAVE TO RAISE RENTS BUT WE SHOULDN'T

WASHINGTON.—As the fate of rent control hung in the balance before the Senate Banking Committee January 31st Administrator Philip B. Fleming of the Office of Temporary Controls, top administration man in the field, testified both for and against holding the rent line before amazed senators and newsmen.

Fleming, a chunky, white mustached figure wearing the fully decorated uniform of a major general, opened his testimony by admitting having given the order to OPA to permit a 10% nationwide rent hike two days before. He killed the order, he said, when he "found out for the first time that President Truman was opposed to a blanket rent increase and wanted the matter left up to Congress."

Fleming then explained his peculiar position. He really knew, he said, that landlords would get a windfall out of a blanket raise, but he claimed it was administratively impossible for a small OPA staff of 6,000 to handle all the so-called landlord hardship cases among 16,000,000 rental units. The staff Congress would leave OPA with, he said, would not be up to the job. Therefore, he would settle hardships by giving all landlords a 10% raise.

Fleming then went on to read a prepared statement proving that a blanket increase "would give unwarranted and unjustified increases in rents to landlords who do not need relief and fasten an unnecessary burden upon millions of tenants." He urged continuation of the present rent control legislation.

Fleming's testimony showed:

1. In an 88-city survey during 1946, vacancy rates averaged less than one-half of 1%, compared to a prewar normal of between 5% and 10%.

2. Gross rental income from apartment houses of five or more units is 13.5% higher than in 1939, and 14.5% higher for smaller buildings. During these years operating expenditures have remained fairly constant.

3. Although net landlord income reached its peak in 1944, estimates for the last six months show net income still 21% above 1939 for larger apartment houses and 39% for smaller buildings.

4. Under 15 different grounds for raising rents, OPA has granted a million rent raises, 300,000 of which were of the so-called hardship variety.

The line of questions with which senators bent on raising rents barraged Fleming and his OTC and OPA aides indicated the arguments against rent raises did not carry much weight with them. Instead, they seemed to be trying to find the method for raising rents which would bring the least protest from the administration and the public. Fleming appeared to want to oblige, so much so that Senator Homer Capehart (R., Ind.), declared foe of rent control, thanked him at the end of the hearing "for being so frank and honest with this committee."

The 25c-An-Hour Question . . .

SAN DIEGO, Calif. — Want to take an exam for your pay raise? This novel technique was worked out by Local 526, International Union of Operating Engineers (AFL), and the refrigeration industry here to determine who should receive raises of 25c an hour won by the union.

By mutual consent of the union and the contractors, a joint board was established to conduct an examination among journeymen. Those who correctly answered 37 of 42 questions on the test were eligible for raises from $1.50 to $1.75 an hour and inclusion in a new classification of master refrigeration engineers.

LAUNDRY WORKERS BENEFIT

WASHINGTON, D. C.—The Wage and Hour Administration has issued an important ruling which will effect the working conditions of laundry workers favorably. It provides that laundry and dry cleaning establishments servicing commercial accounts engaged in interstate commerce are subject to the Wage and Hour Law. Laundry in this category will be brought under the minimum wage and time and a half after 40 hours.

WATCH FOR THE JOURNAL'S WEEKLY SHOPPING SPECIALS

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MEN'S BIG JACK JEANS
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BUY UNION LABEL PRODUCTS ONLY
When making purchases always ask for the union label. If building a home or repairing one see that the men doing the plumbing or steamfitting work, painting job, etc., belong to the union. Ask to see their Card. Boost the union emblem and help yourself. Patronize and demand the following union cards:
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ALLIED PRINTING TRADES UNION LABEL COUNCIL EAST BAY CITIES
ON ALL YOUR PRINTING



Carmen's Union, Division No. 192
LOOK FOR THIS EMBLEM
UNION STORE
WHEN YOU BUY FOOD

Campaign To Fight Anti-Labor Legislation Outlined By Green

SAN FRANCISCO.—In a letter to all National and International Unions, Departments of the American Federation of Labor, State Federations of Labor, and City Central Bodies, President William Green calls upon all affiliates of the American Federation of Labor to mobilize their complete forces in combatting the present anti-labor drive being waged in the 80th Congress of the United States, which convened on January 3, 1947.

Radio commentators, publicists and high-pressure propagandists have all discussed the anti-labor bills that have been introduced in Congress. A bill making closed shop contracts illegal has been introduced by Senator Ball of Minnesota. Senators Taft, Ball and Smith have sponsored a measure which is similar in many respects to the highly objectionable Case Bill, which was passed at the last session of Congress but vetoed by the President of the United States. In addition to these highly objectionable measures, bills designed to prohibit national industry agreements and to delay putting strikes into effect have also been introduced.

Judging from the anti-labor atmosphere that is being created and the power of the drive behind these measures, it is clearly evident, according to President Green, that even though labor mobilizes every ounce of influence and energy at its command to oppose this anti-labor legislation, it will still find it tremendously difficult to prevent the enactment of anti-labor bills at this session of Congress.

Encouraging many legislators is the fact that a large number of the members of the last session of Congress who voted for the notorious anti-labor Case Bill were reelected to the 80th Congress by decisive majorities. Many of these legislators interpret their reelection as an endorsement of their votes for the Case Bill.

In Washington, the American Federation of Labor has organized its legislative representatives, who are working diligently and strenuously to prevail upon the members of Congress to oppose and defeat vicious anti-labor legislation. This will not be enough. It will be necessary for the individual members of unions in the different Congressional districts, and of all of their friends, to communicate with their representatives in Congress, calling upon them to oppose vicious anti-labor legislation.

The California State Federation of Labor joins with the American Federation of Labor in calling upon its membership to do this without delay. In every locality, it is urged that the Central Labor Councils and the unions organize monster mass meetings, and pass at such meetings strongly worded resolutions condemning this anti-labor legislative drive. Correspondence with the representatives in Congress should be maintained steadily, keeping them informed as to the position that labor is taking.

This legislation will hurt every individual man and woman, not only those in labor unions, but everyone who works for a living. It is a fight that concerns every worker in this country. It will shackle and limit the exercise of freedom and rights which Americans have always enjoyed and which have been guaranteed to them in the fundamental law of the land. There is no time for delay. President Green has sounded the alarm. Now it is up to the membership of the American Federation of Labor to respond forcibly and express its determination to oppose anti-labor legislation and impress their respective Congressmen with their position.

Tug Strike Averted With 11c Pay Boost

NEW YORK.—Threat of a tugboat strike in New York harbor was removed when members of Local 333, International Longshoremen's Association (AFL) voted nearly 2 to 1 to accept a compromise wage offer including an 11c hourly pay hike.

Results of the mail vote were announced January 29th by Captain William V. Bradley, president of the local. Of the 1,962 votes cast in three weeks of voting, 1,242 favored the settlement, 714 were opposed and six ballots were void.

The wage offer was submitted to the tugboatmen by a special mayor's committee January 4th, day the unionists were scheduled to strike. A 13-day strike by the union last February completely tied up the harbor.

The compromise provides for reducing the work week from 48 to 40 hours, an 11c hourly pay boost for all ratings and time-and-a-half for Saturdays and Sundays. Terms of the contract, which runs for one year, will be retroactive to January 1st.

DOCTORS' "UNION" DEMANDS PAY HIKE

DETROIT.—Huge wage increases demanded by the Wayne County Medical Society, the union of organized doctors, for county welfare work put ordinary unions to shame. The new scale demanded (and the old scale in parentheses) is: Office call $3 (75c); day home call $4 ($1.50); night home call $6 ($2). The county is willing to pay $1 below the society's demands.

U. S. STEEL MAKES LESS, BUT MAKES MORE—PROFITS

NEW YORK.—U. S. Steel, backbone of the National Association of Manufacturers which has been howling its head off about industry's inability to pay wage increases, picked an inopportune moment to publish its 1946 financial report here.

In the 12 months of last year the company shipped only 15,247,752 net tons of steel products, some three million tons less than 1945. But on the reduced tonnage they made $30 million more in profits than they did the previous year.

The revelations came in the midst of negotiations with the United Steelworkers, in which the union is seeking additional wage raises to meet the kiting cost of living and in which the company has already indicated it will fight tooth and nail to break the whole foundation of unionism by demanding a return to the open shop and a free hand in speeding up the workers.

The reduced 1946 tonnage, the company mourned, was the result of the 4-week strike they forced before granting steel workers an 18½c hourly wage increase. Had it not been for the steel and coal strikes they might have produced an additional 6.3 million tons of steel, and who knows how much more profits?

As it is, the corporation's profit reached the nice round figure of $88,683,530 as compared to 1945's $58,015,056. This made it possible to pay the big coupon clippers $7.29 a share on their common stock as compared with only $3.76 the year before.

This was all made possible by the corporation's successful plea during last year's steel strike that it could not grant wage increases without increasing prices. So it was permitted to jack steel prices $5 a ton. On top of that, it was enabled, through federal tax rebates and a special tax-free "war-costs" fund to write off virtually the entire cost of the strike.

WITNESS HITS IBEW BOYCOTT

WASHINGTON. — In testimony heavily documented with photostats and affidavits, President R. Stafford Edwards of the National Electrical Manufacturers Association complained to the Senate Labor Committee January 29th that secondary boycotts by the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers (AFL) have excluded many producers from metropolitan markets.

Edwards cited the IBEW ruling to boycott all lighting fixtures not bearing the IBEW label and displayed photostats of union letterheads announcing the policy.

The witness said the boycott prevailed also against products bearing labels of CIO unions, and urged the committee to ban boycotts with full penalties for violations.

And They Want More, Yet!

ATLANTIC CITY, N. J.—Increased labor productivity accounted for almost half the $58 billion increase in national production between 1939 and 1946, financial economist Dr. Julius Hirsch told the annual meeting of the American Economic Association here. Of the total, he said, $27,250,000,000 is due to labor's increased output per manhour and $30,750,000,000 to the increase in number of workers.

Anti-Labor Bill Tops All Issues As AFL Chiefs Meet in Miami

MIAMI.—Confronting some of the most momentous issues posed before it in reecnt years, the Executive Council of the American Federation of Labor converged on this city for its mid-winter meeting, which is expected to occupy at least two full weeks.

Foremost among the problems raised are those centered about the heavy flow of anti-labor legislation offered in the brief span since the current session of Congress convened.

Bills already thrown into the legislative hopper would strip organized labor of every protection it has obtained in recent years. They would wipe out the closed shop and every other form of union security; would punish unions for jurisdictional strikes; subject unions to court injunctions; bar industry-wide collective bargaining, and, latest but far from least, a new Ball measure which would, in effect, nullify the Wagner Act and set organized labor back numbers of years when the working man represented little better than slave labor status.

Other matters confronting the Executive Council include the report on its special mission to Germany, whose report is sharply critical of existing conditions there and which calls for abandonment of the four-zone system and every reasonable aid in re-establishment of German industry; a preliminary report on the situation in Argentina, as viewed by the recent AFL mission to that country; a report from Matthew Woll, AFL vice president, and David Dubinsky, president of the International Ladies Garment Workers Union and vice president of the AFL, on the World Economic Council and the United Nations, and a report on the intensive Southern organizing drive. The latter is expected to show long strides toward the initial goals and also to raise policy questions regarding special fields in which the AFL has inaugurated drives.

Sparing no punches in a recent article written for the AFL Federationist, President William Green sounded fresh warning against the flood of anti-labor bills confronting Congress.

Declaring that these bills already number more than 30, Mr. Green asserted in part:

"The purposes, policies and procedures of our trade union movement undergird free enterprise by assuring more adequate purchasing power — an essentially stabilizing force in sustained prosperity.

"Unions are the method by which wage earners promote their welfare more effectively than would be possible for them as individuals. Through the union, workers have become a self-directed element in free enterprise and have given their members effective opportunity to promote their welfare.

"Their progress is conditioned by their wisdom, their discipline and their resourcefulness. They as well as manageemnt have everything to gain by sound union policies and practices and much to lose if unsound substitutes are tried. . . .

"Make no mistake about the principle that free unions are just as essential to free enterprise as is free management. Enterprise can maintain its freedom only if it uses its freedom wisely and makes its ultimate guide service to fellow men.

"Free enterprise is carried on by human beings. There are few perfect ones. In developing the wider concept of free enterprise, some unions have made mistakes as have some managements."

Describing the union as "an essential economic, social and political agency in a democratic society," Mr. Green warned:

"Its faults cannot be remedied by limiting its functions and, in addition, **that course would result in lower standards of living for two-thirds of the population.**

"The supreme test of democratic statesmanship is to find how government may best serve our citizens and help private institutions best to perform their functions."

MEASURES TO PUNISH UNIONS AGAIN HIT IN GREEN STATEMENT

Machinists Win Portal-To-Portal Pay

WASHINGTON. — A negotiated settlement of retroactive portal-to-portal claims of 300 members of Lodge 128, International Association of Machinists was announced January 27th by President Harvey Brown.

The local at Freeport, Texas won $150,000 from the Dow Chemical Company there by conferences over the bargaining table led by Business Agent A. H. Houser.

Dist. 50 Also Kicks Out Jukebox Group Local

DETROIT. — The Music Maintenance Local, one time directly chartered AFL local in Detroit and later dropped when its practices came under public scrutiny, joined District 50, United Mine Workers (AFL), and has now been bounced from there also.

"At this time," says the Detroit & Wayne County Federation of Labor (AFL), "the Music Maintenance Union has no connection whatsoever with the AFL or any of its international unions."

BUS EMPLOYES ORGANIZE

ATLANTA, Ga.—More than 300 bus employes in the atom bomb area at OakRidge, Tenn., members of the Amalgamated Association of Street and Electric Employes, have been organized. The employes of Lee Coach Lines, Albany, Ga., and the LaGrange Coach Co. employes have also joined the Amalgamated and have been placed in Division 732 of Atlanta.

CARPENTERS GET CHARTER

HATTIESBURG, Miss. — A new charter for carpenters was granted here recently.

Labor and Management Willing to Mediate Disputes Disclosed by Record

SAN FRANCISCO. — Willingness of management and labor to mediate disputes over contracts under the direction of federal conciliators, and ultimate settlement of disputes "without resort to economic pressure" was disclosed today by the 1946 records of the United States Conciliation Service Regional Office at San Francisco.

Regional Director Ernest P. Marsh reported that for the year 1946 a total of 2,573 disputes between management and labor were referred to his office, and 2,398 cases reached settlement in signed contracts, better than 90%. Marsh also disclosed that "peacetime" disputes were fewer than during the fiscal year July 1, 1944 - June 30, 1945, when 3,907 cases—3,876 involving disputes—were referred to the United States Conciliation Service of this region, with 3,116 settled.

Contrary to one-sided interpretation and distorted publicity, the number of Conciliation Commissioners has been reduced to 36 in this region, including the Western states, from the 44 which obtained during the war. To date, 415 Conciliation cases are on file for the Service, listed as "open."

"Our records show that where we were able to step into disputes before work stoppages occurred, we were able to reach a settlement," said Conciliation Director Marsh.

The region of eleven Western states recorded 332 strikes during the year of 1946. The number of workers in the region on strike totaled 117,454. Principal issues involved, the number of strikes, and the percentage base of each issue were as follows:

Issue	No. of Strikes	Pct.
Wages	195	58.9
Union Security	37	11.1
Contract Negotiation	56	16.8
Jurisdiction	4	1.2
Miscellaneous	40	12.0

The miscellaneous group includes strikes over grievances, job classification or minor issues and ranged from one-hour work stoppages to one or two days.

While "jurisdictional rows" were aired frequently, the actual strikes were four in number.

This should help to clear the picture in spite of the misrepresentation that has filled the air and the press.

HOUSE LABOR GROUP HEAD PROMISES QUICK ANTI-STRIKE BILL

WASHINGTON. — House labor committee hearings will open February 5th with authors of two bills to amend the Wagner act offering the first testimony, Chairman Fred Hartley (R., N.J.) said January 29th.

Reps. Gerald Landis (R., Ind.) and Clare Hoffman (R., Mich.) are the lead-off men, to be followed by a series of hearings on what Hartley called various fields in labor problems. After these, he said, the committee will write a new bill under his name incorporating the committee's ideas.

The new GOP committee head said he hopes to get a strike control bill to the floor by March 15th, in time to head off a strike in the coal mines at the expiration of the current contract April 1st. He is confident, he said, the committee can write such a bill.

"I am also quite confident," he added, "that this committee will report out a bill that can pass over the President's veto if that is necessary."

Businessmen Say All Prices Will Drop—Except Their Own, That Is

NEW YORK.—In an optimistic let-the-other-guy-do-it frame of mind, 44% of American businessmen polled in a recent Fortune magazine survey predicted prices would go down in 1947—but only 15% said they expected to lower their own.

The poll, published January 30th, also revealed that while business heads look to the coming year for bigger profits, fewer strikes, higher wages and greater production, they are not at all optimistic about what the longer range future has in store. Of the 30,000 executives in manufacturing, commerce, transport, utilities and finance who were polled, 58% said they expect a full sized crash within 10 years.

The contradictions between what businessmen think will happen and what they themselves are prepared to do pops up at every turn. Over half anticipated a general downturn in business this year. But 59% expect their own profits to equal or surpass those of 1946. At the same time a majority anticipated the cost of labor and raw materials would go up but felt they would either cut prices or hold them to present levels.

A geographic breakdown of the 58% who believed there would be fewer strikes in 1947 revealed that that applied everywhere except in the south where "businessmen most expect an increase in strikes and least expect to grant wage increases."

On the controversial issue of whether the year will see a bust, the groups closest to the consumer—the little guy who pays the bills—were the most pessimistic. Businessmen in commerce were "frankly gloomy," the poll declared, with men in soft goods industries close behind them. The capital goods and hard goods executives were brightly optimistic.

AFL TEXTILE UNION WINS

NASHVILLE, Tenn.—United Textile Workers (AFL) here have won an election at Southern Spinning Mill. The company employs over 300 workers in production and maintenance.

VICTORY IN SIGHT - - *by Redfield*



"The union began negotiating for wage increases at his plant today."

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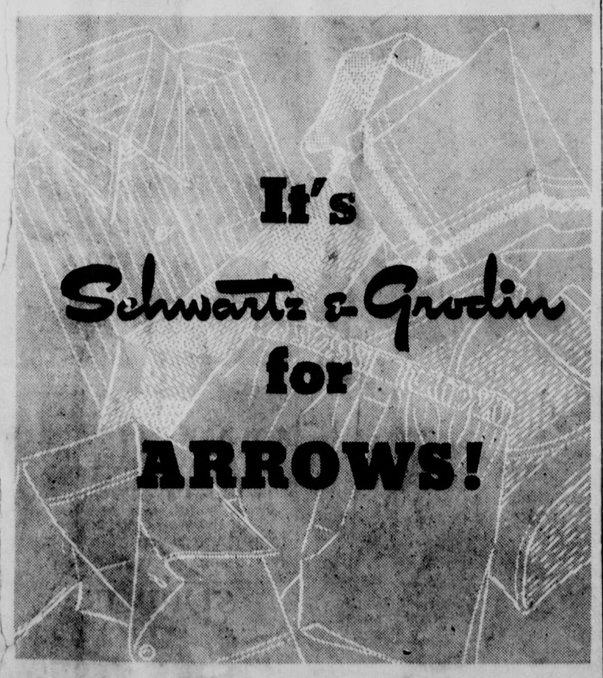
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2111 WEBSTER STREET, OAKLAND [12] CALIF. Phone TWinoaks 3833
JOURNAL PRESS, 237 East Fourteenth Street. TWinoaks 1833

Determined a newspaper of general circulation (as defined by Section 4460 of Political Code) by Decree of the Superior Court of the State of California in and for the County of Alameda.

Entered as Second-class Matter, November 3, 1923, at the Postoffice at Oakland, California, Under the Act of March 3, 1879.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES—One year.....$2.00
Single Copies.....5 Cents
Special Rates to Unions Subscribing in a Body.

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JOURNAL PRESS

Who's Trying To Kid Who?

The crude attempt of both the Oakland Tribune and Paul St. Sure, the attorney for the Retail Merchants Association, to hang the "fiasco" of the past week's strike settlement onto Labor and the Council's attorney, James F. Galliano, is so humorous that it borders on the ridiculous.

After the Oakland Tribune had "scooped" the rest of the Bay Area papers on the "fair and just" terms offered the Clerks' Union, through State Federation President Charles Real, and the morning papers had hit the streets, denials broke out from every section of the city that caused "confusion in strike settlement" to quote the Oakland Tribune.

Realizing that somewhere along the line that a boner was pulled, that either was an honest boner, or the Tribune let something out of the bag, St. Sure and the Tribune immediately looked for a promising victim to hang the blame on.

After building up Charles W. Real in the papers for more than a week prior to the supposed settlement, the Tribune was now confronted with the alternatives that by tearing down Real and supporting St. Sure or pulling down St. Sure or supporting Real. In other words, both Real, as quoted by the Tribune, and St. Sure couldn't be right.

If Real did give the story to the Tribune and he in turn got it from the Merchants, then the cat was out of the bag, the conspiracy exposed and the strike was settled. To meet the situation St. Sure denied giving the proposal to Real and the Tribune dummied up on the rest of the deal.

If Real did give the story to the Tribune then St. Sure was a liar in denying that the Merchants had given the proposal to Real. If Real did not give the story to the Tribune then the Tribune was a liar.

The result of the backfire was that the employers and those who might be connected with their plot were blown up when the smoke cleared away through the acceptance of the proposals by the Union. The AFL labor movement found itself in a stronger position than ever with the full support of the public, which had been built up by the Tribune to accept the proposals as "fair and just."

State Federation of Labor President Charles Real, was placed squarely on the "hot seat," because the article was quoted in its entirety and was supposedly to have come from him. Real, in meeting Tuesday with the AFL Negotiating Committee, emphatically denied that he had released such a story and committed himself to the continued recognition of the Clerks' picketline, thus putting to rest the employers' propaganda line that the strike had folded up by reason of Real's withdrawing Local 70 from the two councils and the Joint Strike Committee. So . . . the ball was, by Real's denial, passed back to the Tribune.

What Local 70 might do if non-union deliveries are made remains a matter of speculation. It is significant in this respect that the Building Trades Council, at its meeting last Tuesday night, voted its Business Agent, Jack Reynolds, full power to act in any development that might take place in the Kahn's-Hastings strike.

St. Sure, trying to play them cagey, attempted to hang it on to Labor. This crude attempt was so weak that it was laughable, if it wasn't so serious. Someone had evidently made such an offer because the offer was a new one as far as Labor was concerned, and Labor, in all sincerity, accepted the offer as a bona fide one. The Tribune's story was accepted and the terms used "fair and just" settlement met the approval of all of Labor. The confusion that resulted was not caused by Labor. Labor had no part of it and any attempts to hang it on Labor or any individual connected with the Central Labor Council, Building Trades Council or the AFL Negotiating Committee, is a fraud.

We of Labor accepted the proposed settlement. The Clerks are ready and willing to return to work under that proposal and end the strike.

Any further attempts to hang something onto Labor because someone, somewhere, either on the Tribune, in the Merchants Association, or on the sidelines, pulled a boner and let the cat out of the bag, will be met by that old refrain of "Who's trying to kid who?"

We Don't Patronize

The following persons and firms, after a thorough examination into the causes at issue, have been deemed unworthy of the patronage of members of organized labor and their friends:

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Cannon's Shoe Store, Cor. 11th and Washington Sts., Oakland
Feltman & Curme, 1124 Washington St. and 1932 Telegraph Ave.
Leed's Shoe Store, 1315 Washington St.
Roy Logan Shoe Store, 1220 Broadway, Oakland
Nisley Shoe Store, 1425 Broadway
F. W. Woolworth Company, Hayward
Vine Pastry Shop 2114 Vine St., Berkeley

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The Star Barber Shop, 1926 University Ave., Berkeley
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El Dumpo Restaurant, 2110 Allston Way, Berkeley

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Metals, Inc. 1069 - 2nd Street, Berkeley
E. I. DuPont de Nemours, Paint Manufacturing Co., South San Francisco
Phil's Used Car Lot, 3350 San Pablo Avenue, Oakland
West Oakland Sheet Metal Supply Company, 1231 Center St., Oakland
Hotel Menlo, 13th & Webster Sts., Oakland
Precision Engineering Company, 5701 Green St., Emeryville
Sealy Mattress Co., 6699 San Pablo Ave.
Bannum Truck Company
Gantner & Mattern Co., 3rd and Berry St., San Francisco
West Coast Macaroni Manufacturing So., 1250 57th Avenue, Oakland
Blackstone Mfg. Co., N. Y., Tools and Implements
National Mattress Co., 920 54th Ave.
National Nut Company, 362 Fourth St.
Goldstone Bros., Overalls
O'Keefe & Merritt Stove Co., Los Angeles
Portland Hotel, 476 9th St., Oakland
Bear Creek Vineyard Association, Lodi
Bottled Brands of Wine: "Bear Creek," "Bruin" and "Palencia"; bottled brandies: "Ceremony" and "Bruin"

Strokes From the Brush of Local 127

By HUGHIE RUTLEDGE

The following brothers are on the sick list at the present time: Winston Stanley, Francis Lawrence, Russell Knott, Glenn Cunningham, Victor Quarante, William Sannebeck, Harry Leffers, Fred Leithoff, Frank Gardin, Fred Traverso, F. H. Corning, Peter Haughom, Milton Blake, John Kocsis, Louis Daniels, Herman Wohlferth, William Gatke, Hugh Breese, A. F. Dunlap, Ed Russell, E. H. Fullmer, L. D. Sibley, Ralph Wood, W. R. Betz, John Mull, and Raymond O'Brien. Again we request the brothers to be sure and send in a sick card each week so that there will be no delay or confusion in getting your weekly checks.

Unemployment Disability Insurance

On the front page of this week's issue is the first information on our new group insurance policy. Be sure and read it carefully and know what to sign and what not to. Each week more information will be given but if you are in any doubts phone into the office immediately. At the present time we are covered by the State Plan, so in case of any loss of time, by accident or sickness, report in at once for unemployment insurance.

The executive board of the California State Conference of Painters, of which your scribe is a member, is meeting at present in San Francisco in conjunction with the State Contractors' Association. Many items of interest to both groups will be taken up at these meetings.

The recent action of the local in rejecting the plan offered for a group life insurance policy, has been the subject of much discussion. It is unfortunate that the company who proposed the issuance of the policy did not have a sufficiently informed representative to properly present the plan. As a result of this the members were not aware and were not enough acquainted with exactly what was presented. Many of the brothers have stated that if a properly presented plan was offered, more interest would be shown. As a result several other insurance companies have requested the privilege of presenting their plan and no doubt we will again take some kind of action.

Flash News:

The annual picnic of the local will be held on Sunday, September 7th at Linda Vista Park, Mission San Jose. This will give the brothers sufficient time to not make other arrangements. Don't forget that date.

Don't forget to ask for the card. Next meeting of the local will be February 13th.

LABOR'S NEWS in BRIEF



MIAMI.—Any punitive anti-labor measures adopted by Congress would be a "tragic mistake" and would only serve to disrupt the "era of good feeling" setting in on the industrial front, the AFL executive council warned at the opening of its winter meeting.

★ ★ ★

NEW YORK.—Four national radio networks granted wage increases of 20% to 30% to 20,000 members of the American Federation of Radio Artists (AFL) in a contract running through October, 1948.

★ ★ ★

WASHINGTON.—In a report on the structure and operation of the North American newsprint industry, Senator James E. Murray (D., Mont.) said big newspapers, big magazines and big newsprint mill operators have a throttle hold on production, price and distribution of printing paper.

★ ★ ★

SPRINGFIELD, Mass.—Striking editorial workers of four Springfield newspapers sold the entire press-run of 3,500 copies of their new baby tabloid, entitled Today, in less than one hour. The strikers, members of American Newspaper Guild (CIO), will continue Today until the strike is settled.

★ ★ ★

NEW YORK.—The Dairymen's League Cooperative Association Inc., whose rigging of the butter market cost New Yorkers an estimated $600,000 in higher milk bills, was fined $25,000 in U. S. District Court as its officers pleaded guilty.

★ ★ ★

PHILADELPHIA.—Local 107, International Brotherhood of Teamsters (AFL), gave $2,500 to Children's Hospital here to aid the 1947 Fight Against Infantile Paralysis Campaign.

★ ★ ★

WASHINGTON.—The International Association of Machinists set aside a special fund of $2 million for an organizing campaign to bring 400,000 new members into the union. The IAM goal is a membership of one million by May 1948.

★ ★ ★

PITTSBURGH.—The U. S. Steel Corporation countered contract proposals by the United Steelworkers with demands for a return to the open shop, strike penalties and a speedup. The corporation answer came after the union agreed to extend the present contract from its February 15th expiration date to April 30th.

★ ★ ★

NEW YORK.—In defiance of American Legion top policy, the New York county legion organization representing 155 posts unanimously endorsed the Wagner-Ellender-Taft general housing bill.

★ ★ ★

WASHINGTON.—Rep. Albert J. Engel (R., Mich.) denounced the Knutson bill to slash income taxes of rich and poor alike 20% as unfair to low and middle income groups, politically unwise for the Republicans and not in keeping with GOP traditions.

★ ★ ★

LOS ANGELES.—Allied Printing Trades Council (AFL) announced its sixth successive victory at Pacific Press, former open shop stronghold, when typographers voted to affiliate with the International Typographical Union. Previous elections were won by mailers, pressmen, photoengravers, stereotypers and paper handlers.

★ ★ ★

WASHINGTON.—The Justice Department filed a brief with the U. S. Supreme Court attacking fundamental union rights in an attempt to obtain a ruling favorable to the Lea (anti-Petrillo) act, earlier outlawed by U. S. District Court in Chicago.

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U. S. AIDS FINLAND'S PAPER INDUSTRY

WASHINGTON.—The Export-Import Bank has authorized a credit of $20 million to Finland for the purchase of U. S. machinery, equipment and materials for the recovery of export production in its lumber, pulp and paper industry.

Western Union Hearing Set

WASHINGTON.—Six months of prodding by labor has brought the Federal Communications Commission to order a hearing into complaints that the Western Union Telegraph Co. is threatening the stability of the industry by closing branch offices and curtailing service.

The hearing will begin February 10th in Washington and the Commercial Telegraphers Union (AFL) will be among the first witnesses.

GOV. ARNALL GETS AWARD

NEW ORLEANS.—Governor Ellis Arnall of Georgia received the Jefferson award for "outstanding service to the people of the South in the tradition of Thomas Jefferson" at the biennial convention of the Southern Conference for Human Welfare held here the latter part of November.

Ball Explains New Block Buster

WASHINGTON. — Scab-herding would become upright and employer organization of back-to-work movements given Uncle Sam's blessing under the terms of a bill introduced January 27th by Senator Joseph H. Ball (R., Minn.).

Ball, who already has three dandy anti-labor bills in the legislative hopper, told newsmen he was quite enthusiastic about his newest measure.

The Minnesotan held a full-dress press conference in his office to explain the bill and admit he drafted it with the help of Gerald L. Reilly, former member of the NLRB.

Giving a little piece of taffy to the craft unions of the AFL, and a chunk of fudge to the complaining unaffiliated or so-called independent unions, Ball admittedly reserved the chocolate-covered delights to the downtrodden U. S. employer.

S. 360, which is the number by which the new Ball bill is known, amends the Wagner act. Senator W. Lee O'Daniel (D., Texas), did quite the same thing in his bill which consists of just one sentence: "The National Labor Relations Act is hereby repealed."

Ball first would deny the protection of the Wagner act to workers who went on strike and refused to return to the same or similar jobs upon an offer from an employer. The employer, all said, would be free to make such an offer at any time and if the strikers refuse to return, he could hire somebody else.

"Then what you mean, Joe, is that strikers would lose all rights under the Wagner act?" a reporter asked.

"Yes," was Ball's reply.

"And that includes any strike?"

"Yes," was Ball's answer again.

The only exception, he went on, would be a case where an employer was guilty of unfair labor practices, but if workers walked out over a proposed pay cut, they'd have to come back on the employer's terms or lose their rights under the Wagner act.

A specific prohibition is written into the Ball bill to bar professional workers from the common unit in a shop. Ball said this would cover principally doctors, lawyers, engineers and technical specialists.

Another new wrinkle in the Ball bill transfers the legal division of the NLRB to the Department of Justice under a special assistant to the attorney general. This division would handle all complaints and investigations for the NLRB.

Under free speech for employers, Ball provides that any oral or written statement by the boss will be all right as long as no threat of reprisal or promise of reward is involved.

Under a union contract, Ball would permit any individual worker to negotiate separately with the employer if he desired and make a settlement as long as it did not violate the terms of the contract. And if after an election had been held, an individual or group of individuals felt the result was unfair, they could go into federal court for a review.

Ball would specifically prohibit any strike to compel the employer to bargain with a union or strike action in situations where the remedy is offered in his bill. Violations of this proviso would permit the employer to seek injunctions despite the Clayton or Norris - LaGuardia anti-injunction act.

"This bill wouldn't prohibit strikes," Ball went on. "It would just make them as risky as before the Wagner act. Today there's no way for an employer to beat a strike. You have the employer over the barrel. This bill gives the employer a reasonable chance to organize a back-to-work movement."

Ball said his bill would also prohibit the disenfranchisement of independent unions and require that craft unions be given a separate election rather than be included in an overall bargaining unit.

Senate Rent - Steal Bill Introduced, Hearings At Once

WASHINGTON. — All Americans who rent a place to live would be the victims of a national holdup amounting to billions of dollars annually if S. 415, introduced January 27th by Senator Albert W. Hawkes (R., N.J.) becomes law.

The bill provides two simple things: (1) An end of rent control over all new dwellings and ones not as yet rented. (2) A 15% boost in rents for all dwellings now controlled, effective to April 30, 1948. After that Hawkes assumes an end of all rent ceilings.

Hearings on rent legislation including Hawkes' bill start before the Senate Banking and Currency Committee January 30th with Administrator of Temporary Controls Philip B. Fleming offering the first testimony.

Sharing the spotlight with Hawkes, a wealthy manufacturer and bitter opponent of organized labor, were the other co-sponsors of the Senate bill, all Republicans: Homer Capehart (Ind.), Harry P. Cain (Wash.), Joseph McCarthy (Wis.), and George Malone (Nev.).

AFML Backs U. S.-British Transport Workers Tie

MIAMI, Fla.—The AFL executive council in midwinter session here January 30th favorably considered an invitation to AFL transport workers to affiliate with the International Transport Workers Federation of Great Britain.

The council turned the invitation over to the individual unions involved for final action. The unions asked to join the British group include the teamsters, railroad, streetcar and bus workers, with a combined membership of more than two million.

The council also voted a $20 blanket wage increase to all AFL organizers paid directly by the national office.

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